importing cashewnut when we ourselves produce so much?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (c) As per details of exports compiled by DGCI&S, export of cashew kernels during the last three years were as below:—

Year	Volume (Tonnes)	Value (Rs. Crores)
1990-91	49812	561.40
1991-92	65508	671.51
1992-93	53241	764.85
1993-94 (April-Nov.)	44577	675.58

Details of State-wise exports are not maintained. However, Kerala accounts for a large volume of export of cashew kernels from India.

(d) and (e) As the production of raw cashewnuts in the country is not adequate to meet demands of both domestic and international markets, as also because the production of raw cashewnuts within the country is not adequate to cater to the processing capacity available in the country, raw cashewnuts have to be imported, inter-alia from African region also.

Export of Tea

714. SHRI V. RAJESHWAR RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are total annual exports of tea as on 1st February, 1994;

(b) what action is being contemplated to encourage exports of tea;

(c) which is the largest tea exporting State in India; and

(d) the names of five countries to which India's tea exports are maximum?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) According to the latest available data, estimated export of tea for the period between 1.4.93 to 31.12.93 has been 129.52 M.kgs. valued at Rs. 865.97 crores.

(b) Steps taken to boost exports of teas include uninational promotional campaigns through Tea Board's offices abroad. It consists of (i) participation in trade fairs/exhibitions, (ii) media compaign to increase consumer awareness towards various unique characteristics of Indian tea, (iii) media compaign to popularise Indian Tea through Tea Board marketing symbol and (iv) support to various foreign brands containing Indian tea. A part of the expenditure incurred by importers for promotional campaigns is met from Tea Board's budget. Tea Board has also undertaken Darjeeling and Assam Logo Campaign in U.K.

(c) It may not be possible to identify the share of different States of overall export of tea from India as in most cases tea is exported in blended form.

(d) Five major importers of Indian tea are Russia alongwith CIS countries, U.K., Poland, Iran and Egypt.